

But the plan is liable to one very grave objection, viz, that the open tops of these spouts are often below the level of the attics, and even near the windows. Thus the street sewers are encouraged to discharge their poisons into air that has to be breathed through the night. The exit-flue for sewer gases must, therefore, always be carried above the level of the attics, and at a distance from the windows.

EXCRETA.

27. It can scarcely be doubted that the earth-closet is the best mode for collecting and disinfecting the refuse of the body, provided the arrangements for supplying fresh dry earth, and for carrying off what has been saturated, can be satisfactorily made. In the meantime privies and water-closets will both be used from their easy convenience.

28. For the ventilation of closets, see Nos. 9, 11 and 16.

29. How to prevent privies from being offensive is a difficult problem. If the vault is not water-tight, its percolations necessarily penetrate the soil, and form one of the chief causes of our high death-rate. It is very rarely that they can be connected with street sewers without evil consequences. It is common to erect shafts, like short chimneys, communicating with the vaults. These simply carry off the imprisoned gases and mix them with the general air of the yard, exactly at the level at which they are likely to be breathed. Perhaps the least evil results from making the vaults as nearly air and water-tight as possible. The seats should be made with hinges, so that, on lifting them, earth, ashes or disinfectants may be frequently thrown in. The privies should be at as great a distance from dwellings as possible.

COTTAGE AND TENEMENT HOUSES.

30. The simple expedients here enforced, viz: A fresh-air flue discharging at the stove; a glazed pipe within the brick chimney, forming ventilating flues on each side; together with a trapped pipe-drain for the house slops, ought to be introduced into even the cheapest houses. The removal of the excreta ought to be at the cost, and for the benefit of the city, and should not be dependent on

either the owner or the tenant. The water tax should be charged on the property and the supply should not be dependent on the ability of the tenant to pay the rate for the whole year at one period.

31. It is a great sin to build any dwelling without through ventilation from front to back. The erection of fresh buildings with windows only in front should be prohibited under heavy penalties; as also building round a yard so as to stop the circulation of air.

32. In old houses, and in cases where the owners are covetous, and unwilling to do their first duty in making their dwellings healthy, tenants may obtain great relief by a few simple arrangements: 1. Let a wood or tin pipe be made, communicating with the outside, and discharging under or close to the stove, so that fresh air shall be heated as it enters. 2. Let a brick be taken out in the chimney, to allow foul air to escape. If the smoke returns, cover it with wire gauze or perforated zinc. Dr. B. Edwards has invented a simple plan, by which a T-bend is used, instead of the usual elbow joint of the smoke flue. The open arm of this, protected by a self-acting valve, carries the foul air directly into the chimney. Another plan is to make the chimney hole larger than the flue, so that the foul air may be carried off round the heated stove-pipe.

33. The main principles for health and comfort are to bring in fresh air, heated at the stove, and to carry off what has passed through the lungs. The application of these principles will vary continually; but brain-work, a little time and trouble, and a very few dollars, will generally suffice to make the necessary provisions.

34. To replace all box drains by glazed tile, and to prevent throwing slops on porous soil, is the special duty of every house owner. A man's religion is not worth much if he injures the health of his tenants in order to save a little money or to avoid taking trouble.

35. If any children, through our neglect of the known laws of health, fall sick and die, their blood will be required at our hands at the great day of judgment. If property has its rights, much more has it its duties; if we neglect these, it is at the peril of our souls.